

News Briefs

Information Awareness Training

All Columbus AFB network users must complete the 2006 Information Awareness training by March 1. Computer users may access the training by going to <https://columbusweb/> and clicking on the 2006 Information Awareness Training link.

AFAS Grant

The Air Force Aid Society increased the individual award amount under its General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program to \$2,000. The program is offered to dependent sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 AGR/Reservists on extended active duty, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired Reservists with more than 20 qualifying years of service, and deceased Air Force members. Stateside residing spouses of active duty and Title 10 AGR/Reservists on extended active duty; and surviving spouses of deceased members are also eligible. For more information or an application, visit www.afas.org.

Military Spouse Scholarships

The National Military Family Association is accepting applications for its Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships. Applicants must be a spouse of a servicemember and studying toward professional certification or attending post-secondary or graduate school. Scholarships may be used for tuition, fees, books and school room and board. Applications must be submitted online by midnight on April 15. For more information, visit www.nmfa.org/scholarships2006.

DUI status

“Don’t Drink and Drive”
Last DUI: Saturday
Days since last DUI: 6
Unit: 14th Civil Engineer Squadron



COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select
37th (06-15)	4.09 days	1.27 days	April 3
41st (06-14)	3.87 days	-0.96 days	March 8

PHASE III			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
48th (06-06)	2.18 days	3.03 days	March 10
50th (06-06)	5.81 days	3.79 days	March 10

WING SORTIE BOARD			
Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
T-37	1411	1270	11123
T-38C	625	637	5011
T-1A	630	603	4904

Graduation speaker: Maj. Gen. Harold Cross, Adjutant General of Mississippi

UNIFORM

(Continued from Page 1)

- while wearing the mess dress.
- Rings will be worn at the base of the finger and will not be worn on the thumb. Wedding sets count as one ring.
- Eyeglasses will not be worn around the neck, on top or back of the head or hanging on uniform.
- New epoxy blue nametag is optional on the blue shirt.
- Wear of the firefighter duty badge is authorized while an individual is assigned a 3E7X1 duty Air Force specialty code, including periods of professional military education and staff tours above group level.
- Wear of the security forces duty badge and beret is authorized while an individual is assigned a 3PXXX duty AFSC position and is also their primary AFSC, including PME attendance and staff tours above group level.
- The Air Force Good Conduct Medal will no longer be awarded. Previously earned medals are still permitted.
- Mandatory wear of the physical training uniform is set for Oct. 1 as per the instructions released last November.
- Cell phones, pagers and personal digital assistants must be solid or covered in black, silver, dark blue or gray, and must

- be conservative. They may be clipped to the left side of the waistband or purse or carried in left hand. Only one may be worn on the uniform belt. Members will not walk in uniform while using phones, radios or hands-free headsets unless required in performing official duties using a government-issued device.
- Permanent wear of the scuba badge is authorized on the battle dress uniform.
- While not deployed, desert combat uniforms may not be worn unless en route to the basic combat convoy course. “Deployed” for this purpose includes members traveling en route to and from rest and recuperative leave from the Central Command area of responsibility, as outlined in policy announced in mid-2005.
- This session of the Air Force Uniform Board included a special panel that was specifically chartered to make recommendations regarding updates/revisions to uniform standards affecting women Airmen. After careful review, the board approved several changes that affect women specifically:
 - “Scrunchies” are prohibited.
 - Hairpins and bands must match hair color.
 - Hair color, frosting and highlights will not be faddish and will match natural hair colors, i.e. blonde, brunette, natural red, black or gray.

- No shaved head or flat top hairstyles for women.
- Synthetic hair can be worn, as long as it meets safety and mission requirements.
- Braids, micro-braids and cornrows are authorized.
- Nail polish will not contrast with complexion or detract from the uniform. Nor is polish of extreme color, such as purple, gold, black, blue or any florescent color, authorized. Nail polish will also be limited to one color.
- French manicures are allowed, but fingernail length in all instances will not exceed one-quarter inch beyond the fingertip.
- In addition to clutch-style purses, purses with no more than two straps are authorized with mess dress.
- Earrings will be small spherical, conservative diamond, gold, white pearl or silver with any uniform combination and must be worn as a set. For those with multiple ear piercing, only one set of earrings will be worn in the lower earlobe and will also conform to these earring wear standards when performing duty in civilian clothes.
- Male flight cap is optional.

The updates will be added to Air Force Instruction 36-2903 when the new version is released in March. *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)*

Columbus AFB tax center hits \$1 million in refunds

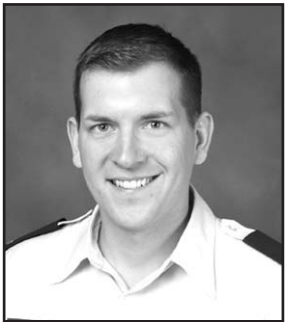
The Columbus AFB Tax Center has helped the BLAZE family receive more than \$1 million in refunds, helping more than 1,200 families.

“I am excited to lead the tax center as we continue BLAZEing a trail of excellence,”said Marti Myers-Garver, base tax center director. “We have filed more than 1,000 returns and continue to break records.”

The base tax center needs the base community's help to continue at this pace.

“Several volunteers having moved and several others have graduated, so we need more volunteers,” Ms. Myers-Garver said. “But even though people may temporarily have to wait 15 to 20 minutes for walk-in appointments, the aroma of fresh baked cookies, freshly popped popcorn and other treats are always around.”

To become a tax center volunteer, call Ms. Myers-Garver at 434-7613. For an appointment, e-mail the tax center at appointments@columbusvita.com. *(Courtesy of the 14th Flying Training Wing Legal Office)*



2nd Lt. Michael Klotz
14th Operations Support Squadron



The 14th Flying Training Wing commends Lieutenant Klotz for his **admirable display of integrity**. Lieutenant Klotz found a money bag containing more than \$2,000 and turned it in to the 14th Security Forces Squadron.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, **37 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed** worldwide.

Remember to support the troops and their families while they are away.



SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week’s SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

Published by the Commercial Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 14th Flying Training Wing.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Straight Talk Line

Columbus Club parking lot

Question: When passing through the main gate, contract security personnel asked me to remove my radar detector and store it in my glove box. Why is there selective enforcement of this rule?

Answer: DoD policy prohibits the use of radar detectors on DoD installations in DODI 6055.4 E3.11.3. To ensure that people are not using these devices, gate guards ask people to remove them from their windshields if they aren't permanently affixed to the dashboard. Clear procedures and guidance will be given to our gate guards so enforcement of this procedure is standard.

Col. Stephen Wilson

14th Flying Training Wing commander

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential.

Written questions may be dropped off at the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazerweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main Web site at www.columbus.af.mil. Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

Certified No. 1



Courtesy Photo

Col. Susan Hall, 14th Medical Group commander, receives the fiscal year 2005 Air Force Medical Service's Top Performance award for CONUS Small Clinics from the Air Force Surgeon General, Lt. Gen. George Taylor.

Groups combine resources, give troops valentines

WASHINGTON -- Two organizations have teamed up to send valentines to troops in Baghdad in an effort made possible by "America Supports You."

Paul Holton, founder and president of "Operation Give," connected with Shauna Fleming, the 16-year-old founder of "A Million Thanks," through the America Supports You Web site, to discuss how to improve her program, which sends letters from schoolchildren to troops overseas.

"It's an incredible connection. I'm so glad that he contacted me," Ms. Fleming said. "That's exactly what the Web site is used for, and so I was really excited when he told me that that's how he had found me."

Before this partnership, Fleming's group had been paying shipping costs out

of pocket, often using monetary donations from the public, to send boxes filled with letters to troops overseas. Students at Fleming's school sorted, censored and packed the letters, while her family members handled most of the logistics.

Thanks to Ms. Fleming's new partnership with Mr. Holton, a FedEx truck came directly to her school in California Feb. 7 to pick up the 200,000 valentines the students had collected. Ms. Fleming expected the packages to make it to Baghdad just in time for Valentine's Day.

"With FedEx as our shipping partner, we have the ability of getting things moved and distributed with FedEx's help," Mr. Holton said.

Mr. Holton, a chief warrant officer in the Army National Guard, is also an account manager with FedEx, giving his

operation a natural connection with the worldwide shipping company. He said he had been looking for a chance to use that unique link to help other organizations give more aid to troops overseas, and attending the first-ever America Supports You grassroots summit helped create many valuable connections.

"To interact with other organizations that were doing similar things and wanted to connect and perhaps play off of each other's strengths was an excellent way to help promote the cause," he said. "It's very difficult doing it on our own. Most of us are volunteers, and we're using our own money to make this happen."

Mr. Holton began Operation Give in 2003, while he was serving in Iraq and said it was an efficient way to distribute

aid to Iraqi children, improving the informal supply chain that began thanks to concerned American citizens.

"I had the opportunity to interact with hundreds and hundreds of Iraqis and with their families," he said. "We started passing out toys and school supplies to children."

The effort took off from there and it soon became its own corporation. As one of many soldiers doing humanitarian work in Iraq, Mr. Holton said he is concerned that "the American people don't really see the better side of what Iraq is really all about," but the chance to work closely with other grassroots organizations might help change that.

"I think America Supports You is a fantastic organization," he said. "There's great synergy here." *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News.)*

AFREP

The Air Force Repair and Enhancement Program is designed to help save tax money, and aircraft and equipment downtime by writing repair procedures on maintenance parts and submitting them for approval. Parts normally thrown away are instead repaired and made functional again. For questions or more information, contact AFREP manager David Watkins at Ext. 7539 or Randy Holmes at Ext. 2462.

Air Force Assistance Fund capaign to begin Monday

The 2006 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign will kick-off Monday and run through March 31. The AFAF encompasses four separate charitable organizations designed to benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired Air Force personnel and their families.

1. The Air Force Aid Society is available worldwide for emergency financial assistance. The top priority is providing assistance to active-duty members and their families, but consideration is given to assisting retirees and widows on a limited case-by-case basis. Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members on extended active duty can also be eligible for emergency assistance when circumstances warrant. The Air Force Aid Society also offers educational assistance programs.

2. The Air Force Enlisted Village was created to care for widows, widowers, and dependents of Air Force enlisted personnel. To accomplish its mission, AFEV acquired 379 housing units at two comfortable northwest Florida facilities. Indigent widows live here among peers and share memories of Air Force life without the stigma normally associated with subsidized housing facilities

3. The Air Force Village provides financial assistance to widows and widowers of Air Force officers. Their common desire is to ensure that widows, left without the financial means, will have a secure and

dignified home regardless of financial circumstances. It also follows the Air Force tradition of caring for its own by supporting patients and families undergoing treatment in the Wilford Hall Medical Center Bone Marrow Transplant program. In cooperation with the Air Force Aid Society, furnished apartments and Village services are offered to both active duty and retired patients and their families, regardless of military grade, while in the lengthy outpatient program.

4. The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation provides financial aid to spouses who supported the careers of Air Force officers and enlisted personnel during many PCSs, deployments and TDYs, and other hardships. The LeMay Foundation helps with monthly supplemental grants to assist with food, rent, utilities, and for some, health care.

Further information on all of these AFAF programs can be obtained at the Web site www.afasistancefund.org or by contacting your wing, group, or squadron AFAF representative. Donations to the AFAF campaign can be made through cash, check, or payroll deduction. Contributors may designate their contribution to one or more of the four charities. One hundred percent of their AFAF contribution is passed to their chosen charities. *(Courtesy of the 50th Flying Training Squadron.)*

Be aware of improper sewage disposal at Columbus AFB

Kendra Gomez

14th Civil Engineer Squadron

It's important to understand the difference between sanitary sewers and storm sewers to prevent unnecessary environmental damage and help the base comply with all environmental regulations.

The sanitary sewer is a system of underground pipes that carries sewage from bathrooms, sinks, kitchens and other plumbing components to the wastewater treatment plant. Wastewater from Columbus AFB leaves the base and connects to the city sewer system, which is monitored by the local sanitary sewer authority.

The storm sewer is a system designed to carry rainfall runoff and other drainage, but not sewage. The untreated runoff is carried in underground pipes or open ditches and discharges into streams or other surface water bodies. The inlets to this system may be

found in curbs and low-lying outdoor areas.

Federal law prohibits any unauthorized disposal of foreign solid or hazardous substance in any drain. Disposal of chemicals or hazardous substances through the sanitary or storm sewer system is not only illegal, but damages the environment. Pollutants that get into storm drains can poison fish, birds and other wildlife, and can find their way into drinking water supplies. In addition, silt, litter and organic matter such as branches and clippings can clog storm drains and cause flooding. Examples of prohibited discharges include, but are not limited to:

- * Gasoline
- * Oil petroleum-containing waste
- * Solvents
- * Anti-freeze
- * Paints
- * Soaps and Detergents
- * Sewage

* Hazardous or toxic chemicals

* Anything that can cause a film, sheen or discoloration of the water or adjoining shorelines.

People can help by trying these simple measures:

- * Don't dump any material into a drain unless aware of where the drain goes and that it's okay to dispose of materials there. Many drains go directly to streams.
- * Turn oil in at the Auto Hobby Shop
- * Plug or protect the floor drains that lead to storm sewers

- * Keep drains clear of leaf and lawn litter
- * Collect and recycle oil from vehicle maintenance
- * Don't pour paint down any sink or drain
- * Clean up spills - don't wash them into drains
- * Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides

Call the 14th Civil Engineer Environmental Flight at Ext. 7315 to ask about any sanitary or storm sewer questions or to report the disposal of substance down a drain.

Career Assistance Advisor Tip of the Week

I just put on Staff Sergeant and I want to find out what my responsibilities and duties are as a junior NCO. Where can I find this information? The "Little Brown Book" as most of us refer to it is AFI 36-2618, The Enlisted Force Structure. This pamphlet explains in detail what is expected of airmen in all three enlisted tiers. For a brand new SSgt some key responsibilities and duties include continuing your technical growth in your assigned specialty and building, preparing, and leading teams to accomplish the mission. You will also serve as a first line supervisor, so you need to take an active leadership and supervisory role by staying involved with your personnel on a daily basis. Mentor your personnel, provide them guidance and instruction to help them develop and grow so they are better prepared to accept increased levels of responsibility. Every counseling/feedback session should end with a review of the Air Force Benefits Fact Sheet. And most importantly, provide them career counseling on benefits, enlistments, and opportunities available during an Air Force career. For more information, call Master Sgt. Shelli Fisher at Ext. 7009.



What is AFROTC?

AFROTC is a 2- to 4-year program that produces officers to serve on active duty in the Air Force for a 4-year commitment

Who can join?

- Students who:
- * Are pursuing a college education
 - * Have a 2.0 grade point average or higher
 - * Are in good physical shape
 - * Are U.S. citizens
 - * Have high moral values

What are the benefits of active duty?

- * \$38,000 starting salary
- * Free medical/dental coverage
- * 30 days vacation each year
- * 100% tuition assistance

What scholarships are available?

- * In-College Scholarship Program: Competitive program for any major
- * College Scholarship Program: High school seniors only

To learn more, visit www.afrotc.com



DET 425
Mississippi State University
Mississippi University for Women
(662) 325-3810



DET 430
University of Mississippi
(662) 915-7166



DET 432
University of Southern Mississippi
(601) 266-4468



DET 006
Jackson State University
(601) 979-1630

African American heritage is American heritage

Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz
Air Force Space Command vice commander

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. -- In the 1920s, Dr. Carter G. Woodson concluded that if African-Americans were to take their rightful place in society, young Americans of all races needed to learn about African-American contributions to our history and culture.

In 1926, he launched the first Black History Week. Today, a movement that originally began in churches and schoolrooms is observed across America as African-American Heritage Month.

Dr. Woodson felt, African-American heritage should be remembered and celebrated by more than just one segment of the American population. African-American history is America's history, shared by and affecting all citizens of our great country regardless of background or individual experiences.

The accomplishments and contributions of African-Americans to our society, to our culture and to our identity as a nation are numerous and varied. We'd be hard pressed to find any facet of American life that has not been shaped and immeasurably enriched by their knowledge, wisdom and talents.

In literature, you'll find Ralph Ellison's "Invisible Man" and James Baldwin's "Go Tell It on the Mountain" on the modern library's list of the best novels in the English language. Toni Morrison's "Beloved" won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize in fiction. Five years later, she was awarded the Nobel Prize as one "who gives life to an essential aspect of American reality."

The late Ray Charles was honored with eight Grammy Awards last year. African-Americans have pioneered sounds and styles in music that have influenced virtually every aspect of the American music scene.

Theater and film have also been greatly influenced by powerful performances by African-Americans. The late Ossie Davis received Kennedy Center honors in 2004 for a lifetime of achievement in the arts.

Beyond the arts, African-American scientists, inventors and engineers such as George Washington Carver, Elijah McCoy and Benjamin Banneker have helped unleash the tremendous resources of our country.

Yet in my mind, the most important contributions of famous African-Americans have been in the realm of political ideals and moral values. Perhaps I feel this way because my own academic training is in political history and philosophy. Perhaps it's also because my generation witnessed firsthand the vision, courage and persistence that the great civil rights leaders displayed in confronting the evils of segregation and racial inequality. In pursuit of this noble mission, the tenets of a moral philosophy have been established that will inspire and inform Americans of all races on how to conduct themselves for generations to come. Let me suggest a few examples particularly relevant to those of us who serve in our nation's armed forces.

In his famous 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said: "We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again, we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force."

I think the example of Benjamin O. Davis Jr.'s experience at West Point in the 1930s illustrates this point beautifully. Davis was the only African-American cadet in his class. He entered the academy mindful that no other African-American had graduated since Charles Young, nearly 50 years earlier. From the outset, Davis' classmates

actively shunned him. Yet he remained resolute in his determination and did not falter.

He ultimately graduated in the top 15 percent of his West Point class; was commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry; became the first African-American officer to solo in an Army Air Corps aircraft; commanded the famous Tuskegee Airmen who, flying fighters in the European Theater during World War II, never lost an American bomber to an enemy aircraft in more than 200 escort missions; and became the first African-American to wear an Air Force star. His life and service so powerfully demonstrate that whatever challenge we may personally or professionally confront, we can achieve truly magnificent things if we maintain our dignity and discipline.

Dr. King also talked about how every job was important, and everyone should do his or her particular job to the absolute best of his or her ability. He said, "Whatever your life's work is, do it well."

This point speaks directly to us in the profession of arms. Everyone in a military organization is vitally important to the success of the mission. No job is any more or less important than any other job in our outfit. No matter what your assigned task, you should do it as if someone else's life or welfare depended on it -- because it probably does! African-Americans have demonstrated that they were willing to fight for what they knew to be true, even at the cost of their personal safety and their lives. Through courage and self-sacrifice, they advanced the cause for equality -- individually and en masse.

During the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, when front-line troops were thinning under the German assault, a call went out to African-American units for volunteers to reinforce the lines. More than 4,000 men answered the call. Their performance in battle won the respect of all and drove another wedge into the barrier of segregation.

Dr. King perhaps said it best when he remarked: "There are some things so dear, some things so precious, some things so eternally true, that they're worth dying for...if a man has not discovered something that he will die for, he isn't fit to live."

This is the same kind of courage each of us in the military must possess -- the same kind of self-sacrifice that we must also be prepared to make.

We can take pride that many of these ideals are an integral part of the profession of arms. And we can take pride that the military has long been a leader in recognizing and advancing the concept of equality. It has led the way in correcting injustices, and today can rightly claim to practice the highest standards of equality and opportunity found anywhere in the land.

We'd be less than honest if we did not admit that even in today's military we still have work to do to ensure that all our people -- regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or religion -- are treated fairly, equally and with dignity.

One of the most important keys to success in the military is mentoring -- teaching our young Airmen how to meet the unique standards we expect of them in the profession of arms. Unfortunately, experience shows that it is often difficult for some individuals to mentor people with backgrounds and interests other than their own.

Commanders and supervisors at every level must be aware of this often unrecognized barrier to full equality and ensure that all our Airmen receive the mentoring they need to reach their full potential. As military professionals, we are alike in more ways than we are different.

With that realization will come the fulfillment of the dreams of generations of courageous individuals who struggled and sometimes died to ensure that one day all Americans would have an equal opportunity to share in the blessings of our great land.

Your direct source for current news and information on America's Air Force



www.afnews.af.mil/safpanc/newslink/newslink.html ★ Subscribe today: join-panc_newslink@mercury.afnews.af.mil

Columbus AFB recognizes 2005 annual award winners



Field Grade Officer of the Year
Maj. Michael Spohn
14th Medical Operations Squadron



Flight Commander of the Year
Capt. Ryan Vander Veen
48th Flying Training Squadron



Company Grade Officer of the Year
1st Lt. David Romo-Garza
14th Contracting Squadron



Instructor Pilot of the Year
Capt. Richard Swengros
37th Flying Training Squadron



Senior NCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Shelli Fisher
14th Mission Support Squadron



First Sergeant of the Year
Master Sgt. Emmette Bush
14th Operations Group



NCO of the Year
Tech Sgt. Brian Bailey
14th Mission Support Squadron



Airman and Honor Guardsmen of the Year
Senior Airman Andrea Stegal
14th Flying Training Wing



Civilian Category I of the Year
Diane Stone
14th Comptroller Squadron



Civilian Category II of the Year
Diane Clardy
14th Flying Training Wing



Civilian Category III of the Year
Kaye Lee
14th Comptroller Squadron



Volunteer of the Year
Mary Medley
14th Medical Group



Master Sgt. Michael Pascale of the 14th Medical Operations Squadron, approaches Col. Stephen Wilson, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, and his wife Nancy with the names of the annual awards winners disguised as a secret agent. The banquet's theme was "The Pink Panther."



The first-class event was complete with BLAZE TEAM ice sculptures, which adorned banquet tables.

Columbus AFB is the home of the 14th Flying Training Wing of the Air Education and Training Command. The wing's primary mission is Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training in the T-37B, T-38C and T-1A jet trainers. Each day, the wing flies an average of 275 sorties - making Columbus AFB the busiest flying wing in the US Air Force. However, Columbus AFB doesn't just build the world's best military pilots - we build unrivaled leaders and warriors in all career fields supporting the Air Expeditionary Force and our wartime taskings. In addition to performing our flying training mission, we maintain highly trained warriors capable of deploying at a moment's notice to support worldwide taskings and contingencies. In short, our wing's mission is building the world's best warriors, leaders and professional military pilots.

Columbus AFB is made up of approximately 1,328 military and 1,707 civilian employees who pride themselves in delivering unmatched training, maintenance and support to our Air Force and over 6,200 retired military who live in the Columbus area.

The 14th Flying Training Wing excelled this last year in the face of adversity. We prepared for an Operational Readiness Inspection, the devastating effects of Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina and Rita, increased fuel costs and decreased funding that was diverted to support the ongoing Global War on Terrorism. Despite these challenges, we still managed to expertly train over 450 new military pilots for America and our worldwide allies.

The term "BLAZE" is a unifying theme on Columbus AFB. It represents our dedication and values ... Building Leaders, Advancing Integrity, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do. The BLAZE logo is proudly displayed throughout the base, serving as a constant reminder of our mission and our Air Force core values to the men and women of the 14th Flying Training Wing.

"My sincere appreciation goes out to every BLAZE team member and their families for their continued dedicated service and support to Columbus AFB," said Col. Stephen Wilson, 14th Flying Training Wing commander. "You continue to make Columbus AFB a showcase example for America!"

Congratulations!

Paintball new hours: The paintball field is open Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for play. Group reservations may be made for Saturday after 2 p.m., Sundays after 11 a.m. and Monday through Friday during day-light hours. For more information, call Ext. 7861 or Ext. 2507.

Services holiday hours: The following Services activities will be open Monday: the bowling center from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the fitness center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. All other Services activities are closed.

Shrimp feast buffet: The Columbus Club offers this all-you-can-eat shrimp night from 5 to 8 p.m. March 2. Cost is \$11.95 for members and \$14.95 for non-members. Cost for ages 6 to 12 is \$5 for members and \$8 for nonmembers. Ages 5 and younger eat free. Menu includes peel and eat shrimp, shrimp creole with white rice, golden fried shrimp, Carla's seafood gumbo, shrimp fettuccini with creamy alfredo sauce, baked white fish filet with herbed bread crumbs, grilled breast of chicken

with sauteed peppers, garden green fresh salad with chilled dressings, broccoli with hollandaise sauce, vegetable medley, oven roasted new potatoes, New Orleans dirty rice, oven baked rolls, iced tea, coffee and lemonade and assorted desserts. For more information, call Ext. 2490.

Spring break trip to Orlando: Register at the information, ticket and travel office for this trip to Orlando, Fla. March 26 to March 30. Cost is \$415 for one person, \$265 each for two people in the same room, \$215 each for three people in one room and \$190 each for four people in one room. Cost includes transportation, four nights lodging and shuttle service while in Orlando. Discount Disney tickets are available at the ITT office. For more information, call Ext. 7861.

Lunch buffets: The Columbus Club offers an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Tuesday's menu is new and includes meat loaf, Southern fried pork chops, veggies and

homemade apple pie. Wednesday's menu features a southern comfort buffet with fried chicken, smoked brisket and cobbler. Thursday is the backyard barbecue and Friday's menu is a bonsai buffet with teriyaki chicken, beef vegetable stir fry, fried rice and egg rolls. Cost is \$5.50 per person and includes iced tea or lemonade. For more information, call Ext. 2490.

Mardi Gras party: This event will be held from 8 to 11 p.m. March 3 at the Columbus Club with Mardi Gras games, prizes and assorted finger foods. For more information, call Ext. 2490.

Crafts classes: The arts and crafts center's upcoming crafts classes for March feature seasonal projects. Adult classes are at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Upcoming classes include a St. Patrick's welcome sign, a mosaic patio stone, a picket fence Easter door hanging and a Easter bunny door hanging.

Youth classes are offered Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Upcoming classes include straw hat leprechaun, a St. Patrick's door hanging, a personalized pillow case, a bunny bell necklace and a wooden bunny.

A display of all projects is available in the arts and crafts lobby. Participants must register at least four days prior to the class date. For more information, call Ext. 7836.

Teen aviation camp: This camp is from June 3 to June 9 in Colorado Springs, Colo., at the Air Force Academy. The cost is free to those who are selected to attend but attendees will be responsible for transportation costs. The camp is for students who will be sophomores or juniors in high school during the 2006-2007 school year. Family members of active duty assigned to or living on an Air Force base, Air Force retired military, Air Force civilian employees, Air National Guard and Air Force reserve members are eligible to apply. Deadline for submitting an application is Feb. 24. The youth center director will conduct interviews with applicants the week of Feb. 27 to March 3. Those selected at the base level will be forwarded to the next level. Final selections will be based on application review and ratings by an impartial selection committee. Final selections for the 36 spaces will be announced by April 14. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

Free automobile maintenance classes: The auto hobby shop offers a free minor maintenance class for ladies Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. during March. For more information call Ext. 7842.

Home decor workshops: The arts and crafts center offers a class at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. March 16 to make a message board. Cost is \$15 and includes all supplies. Make a boy's or girl's toy box in the class at 10:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. March 30. Cost is \$30 and includes all supplies. Register at least four days prior to the class start date. Call Ext. 7836 for more information.

Missoula Performing Arts Camp: The youth center is taking applications until March 10 for ages 14 to 18 interested in the performing arts. This camp will be held July 16 to July 22 and again July 23 to July 29 in Missoula, Mont. All expenses will be paid including travel if selected. Turn in an application along with a video of the teen performing to the youth center by the deadline. For more information on the camp, visit www.mctinc.org and click on "MCT and the Military" or call the youth center at Ext. 2504.

ImageMakers National Photography contest: The youth center is accepting entries into this Boys and Girls Club sponsored contest until March 10. Entries will be judged in four age categories: ages 9 and younger, ages 10 to 12, ages 13 to 15 and ages 16 to 18. Pictures must have been taken within the last year. Photographs must be entered in one of the following categories: color process, black and white process; alternative process such as pin-hole cameras, polaroid transfers, photo screen printing, photo etching and photographs; and digital and photo essay. Photographs must not exceed 8-by-11 inches and must be matted. A negative must accompany each photograph (submit a diskette for digital entries). For more information, call Ext. 2504.

Memphis Grizzlies honor military families: Military families may enter a drawing for the opportunity to attend a 2005-2006 Memphis Grizzlies home game by picking up an application at the information, ticket and travel office. The winner will receive passes to a game for up to 10 family members, two parking passes and a \$10 concessions voucher per person.

The chosen servicemember must have been deployed to the Middle East during the last four years for a period of no less than six months as a member of the U.S. armed forces.

Eligible applications will remain in the drawing for every home game so families only need apply one time. The Grizzlies Foundation staff will give winning families at least one week's notice before the game to coordinate plans to attend. For more information, call Ext. 7861.

Chapel Schedule

Catholic

Sunday:

9:15 a.m. — Mass

10:30 a.m. — CCD

5 p.m. — Confessions

5:30 p.m. — SUPT Mass

Tuesday:

7 p.m. — RCIA

Protestant

Sunday:

9 a.m. — Adult and children's

Sunday School

10:30 a.m. — Contemporary service at the services complex

10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship service at the chapel sanctuary

Monday:

7 p.m. — Bible study fellowship

Wednesday:

11:30 a.m. — Lunchtime study

5 p.m. — Pot luck supper

6 p.m. — Video study

A Case for Kids

Pioneer Clubs

Thursday:

10 a.m. — Ladies Bible Study

For information, call Ext. 2500.

Family Support Center

(Editor's note: *All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call Ext. 2790.*)

Spouse welcome

A welcome reception for spouses new to Columbus AFB is from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Wednesday at the Magnolia Inn Lobby. Spouses will receive gifts and information about the family support center.

Free childcare

The Childcare for PCS program offers up to 20 hours of free childcare per child for active-duty Air Force people arriving at or departing from Columbus AFB. Certificates are available within 60 days of departure or arrival. For more information, call Sharon Nichols at Ext. 2790.

Local employment

A workshop about employment opportunities with local businesses, the 14th Services Division and the government is

from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. every Wednesday. Resumes and other job applications will also be discussed.

Deployment Briefings

Pre-Deployment Briefings are held daily at 9 a.m. Family members are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Ext. 2974 or Ext. 2790.

Hearts Apart social

A social gathering for families of personnel deployed or remote for more than 30 days is at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Information, refreshments and prizes are provided.

Sponsorship training

A workshop designed for all unit introduction monitors is at 9 a.m. Feb. 28. Training includes the importance of effective sponsorship and resources available for both sponsors and newcomers.

Single Parents Group

All BLAZE TEAM members who are single parents are invited to attend a meeting at noon March 1 at the Columbus Club Happy Lounge.

Base Notes

Trash cans

Trash pick-up is on Mondays for Capitol Housing residents and on Thursdays for Magnolia and State Village residents. Residents with trash or recycling receptacles left curb-side later than noon the following day will be ticketed by the housing office.

Stampin' Up!

Stampin' up classes will be held at the base chapel annex from 9 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 23 and from 10 a.m. to noon Feb. 25. Participants will make four 12-by-12 scrapbook pages for \$10 Feb. 23. Six professional quality hand-stamped projects, cards and gift items will be made for \$15 Feb.25. Anyone wishing to register must call 434-5076 no later than the day before each class.

COSC social

A Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club wine and chocolate tasting social is at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Columbus Club. Members, spouses and guests will learn about and sample wines and chocolate from a menu of palette pleasers. Cost is \$13.50 with club members receiving a \$2 discount. New

Message from 14th Medical Group

The 14th Medical Group would like to remind everyone that good hygiene along with safe and effective vaccines are key to ensuring current and future health.

With an effective flu prevention program, the 14th MDG has had no confirmed cases of the flu within the active duty population. Several cases of whooping cough, chickenpox, shingles and other vaccine preventable diseases could be more severe without proper vaccination.

While most base children are already fully vaccinated, the 14th MDG is actively seeking out those who have missed vaccines. If your child needs immunization or for questions or information on the status of family vaccinations, call the immunization clinic at Ext. 2187.

members are welcome. For reservations, e-mail Jennifer Wood at woodtjjg@cablone.net or call 425-6059 by noon Thursday.

Columbus' Biggest Losers

The base Fitness and Health and Wellness Centers are sponsoring a Biggest Losers competition beginning March 1. Teams may sign up at the fitness center or HAWC now through Feb. 24. The team that loses the most weight can win a three day and two night stay in one of three selected cities. For more information call Ext. 2772 or Ext. 2477.

COSC Fashion Show

The March Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club Social will be held 6 p.m. March 14th, at the Columbus Club. The menu will include baked cod and will be served at a cost of \$14. Columbus Club members receive a \$2 discount. New members are welcome. For reservations, please contact Jennifer Wood via email at woodtjjg@cablone.net or call 425-6059 by noon March 9th.

Columbus AFB Autocross

Come Drive your car like you always wanted to. The base autocross will be held Feb. 25 and Feb. 26 at the Strategic Air Command ramp. Any type of car or tuck is allowed as long as it has four wheels and is in good mechanical condition. No experience is needed, and participants may on either or both days. Pre registration is highly encouraged at [Http://www.msscca.org](http://www.msscca.org). Cost for Military and Sports Car Club of America members is \$20 for one day, and \$35 for both days. Cost for non-military is \$30 for one day and \$50 for both. All cars must be taken to technical inspection between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Feb. 25. Racing begins at 10:30 a.m. and lasts until 4 p.m. both days. Food and beverage

MPF hours of operation

The military personnel flight is now closed every Thursday from noon to 4:30 p.m. Hours of operation are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to noon Thursday.

ages will be available for purchase. For more information, call 1st Lt. Todd Salzwedel at ext 2736 or e-mail Todd.Salzwedel@columbus.af.mil.

Yard inspections

As a reminder, on random Wednesdays of each month, squadron and group commanders conduct yard inspections. There are at least two inspections every month, so residents are encouraged to have yards in inspection order every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. The family housing brochure, Columbus AFB Pamphlet 32-6002, includes the inspection standards and is available at the housing office. For more information, call the office at Ext. 7276.

Garage sales

On-base garage sales are only permitted the first Saturday of every month. Advertisements for sales are limited to yard signs or ads in the base paper only. Signs must be no larger than 2 feet by 2 feet. Displaying signs on utility poles and street signs is prohibited. Advertising yard sales in the local media, excluding the base newspaper, is also prohibited. People may locally advertise individual items for sale, such as automobiles, boats, washers, dryers or refrigerators. Columbus AFB housing areas are located on a federal installation and the civilian public may only enter a military installation on official business, open house functions or social visitations. Yard and carport sales do not fall within these criteria.

In the strike zone



Pam Wickham

Staff Sgt. James Chase, 50th Flying Training Squadron, practices during lunch. The bowling center's sweetheart tournament starts at 7 p.m. tonight. Register by 6:45 p.m. Entry is \$20 per couple and includes bowling, prize fund and free shoe rental. Call Ext. 2426 for more information.

Daily historic home tours: The public is invited to drop by or call the Mississippi Welcome Center or Columbus Historic Foundation for schedules of historic homes open for tours. For admission or more information, call (800) 920-3533.

Community Volunteer Center: People in search of volunteer opportunities can contact the Community Volunteer Center at 327-0807, or visit the office at 501 Seventh St. North, Suite 5, in the Plaza Building.

American Indian Artifacts Museum: This museum is located in Columbus and holds Native American artifacts dating back hundreds and thousands of years. Tours are available to individuals or groups by appointment. For more information, call Byron and Alice Weeks at (662) 251-1125.

Exchange Club: The Exchange Club of Columbus meets at noon Thursdays at the Columbus Country Club. The

organization is a community service group dedicated to programs and projects that aid in the prevention of child abuse. For more information, e-mail exchange.clubofcolumbus@yahoo.com.

Double Exposure Exhibit: A free exhibit of award-winning photography from Alabama will be presented by the Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa County in the Bama Theatre's Junior League Gallery through Feb. 24 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. For more information, call (205) 758-5195.

Crappie USA Qualifier Fishing Tournament: This tournament will be held at the Columbus Marina on Feb. 25. For more information, call the Columbus Visitor's Bureau at (662) 329-1191.

Day of Dance for Heart Health: This event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon Feb. 25 at the Gloster Creek Village in Tupelo, Miss. The 2006 Day of Dance for Heart Health is a

celebration of dance as a way to enjoy life and prevent heart disease, the No. 1 killer of American women. Dozens of dance demonstrations are scheduled throughout the morning. Styles will include belly dancing, hip-hop, line dance, ballroom dance, ethnic dance and more. Many will offer participants the opportunity to join in and learn something new. While taking a break from dancing, attendees can take advantage of screenings and education pertaining to heart health. Screenings include blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, women's heart disease risk, body mass index, stroke risk and more. Local cardiologists will also be on hand throughout the event. Participants can sample heart-healthy treats and register for door prizes.

MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers meet each month during the school year on the second and fourth Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for a social and guest speaker. Child care is provided onsite. For more information on the MOPS group, call 327-2010 or e-mail info@hopems.org.

BARGAIN LINE

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one) Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement _____

Name _____

Home Telephone # _____ Duty Telephone # _____
(in case we need more information)

Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐ Other _____

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.

Nature Trails

Many people are unaware of the opportunity to walk, run, bike or horseback ride along Columbus AFB's Timberlane Nature Trail. Along the trail, various wetlands, trees and countless wildlife can be found. To reach the recreational area, follow Independence Ave. to the runway area. Signs found alongside the dirt road toward SAC Lake offer direction to the beginning of the trails. For more information, call Ext. 7958.

Sports Shorts

Sweetheart golf tournament

A sweetheart nine-hole scramble golf tournament is scheduled to begin with a shotgun start at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 25 at Whispering Pines Golf Course. Cost is \$50 per team and includes greens fees, prize fund, golf cart and a grilled chicken dinner. Participants must register by Thursday at the golf pro shop. For more information, call Ext. 7932.

Bowling staff challenge

The bowling center staff invites all BLAZE TEAM members to participate in its bowling challenge. One staff member will bowl a game each week, and his or her score will become the target score for anyone who bowls that day.

Bowlers who beat the score will win a free game of bowling to be redeemed at a later date. For more information, call the bowling center at Ext. 2426.

Volleyball Sign-ups

Any BLAZE TEAM member wishing to play intramural volleyball should sign up at their squadron through their sports representative by April 3.

In the big leagues

The Lightning Bolt's Ka'lia Woodard, 7, gets control of the soccer ball while the Red Cardinals' Frank Rossi, 6, attempts to make a steal during a youth soccer game at the base Youth Center.



Airman Alyssa Wallace

Air Force team wins NFL Military Challenge

Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey
15th Airlift Wing

In an event sponsored by the National Football League, the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy battled it out in six events that comprise the NFL Military Challenge Feb. 10. The Air Force team,

made up of Hickam Air Force Base balers, took top honors, using overtime to capture the trophy.

The bluesuiters first made a mad dash for the lead; the six-person relay team each sprinted 40 yards. Claude Jennings, Chad Raper, Nathan Allen, Lester LaFrance, Daray Davis and Ryan McGovern com-

bined to cover the 240 yards in 29.86 seconds, topping the Marines time of 30.67.

The second event, field goal kicking, was indicative of the competitive and skilled nature of the challenge. McGovern split the uprights on an impressive seven of 10 attempts. That was good enough for last place among the five kickers.

Soldier Mark Welch booted a perfect 10, soliciting a "my Colts are looking for a kicker" cry from a horseshoe-emblem-hatted spectator.

Next, Sailor Joe McGill hit the long-snap target three of eight times, taking top honors over Jennings who converted twice during the snapping competition.

The punting competition had Raper sacrificing distance to ensure accuracy in swirling winds. Raper took second, booming three kicks for 92 yards, seven hash marks short of the Army's 99-yard winning tally.

Heading into the final event, the Army led by one point over Air Force, two points over Navy and three points above the Marines.

The passing competition was helmed by Jennings, who used the same skills that have earned him a 32-game-winning-streak.

The point system rewarded completions of specific distances over 60 seconds. A

receiver couldn't break the line of scrimmage until the previous pas was either caught or hit the ground. The Marines took first place and the five points. With the Air Force coming in second, and the Army third, they were knotted in first place after regulation. An overtime toss off was just what Jennings was hoping for.

"We're playing for all the glory going through the air," he said. "It played right into our strengths."

Having figured out the timing scheme from the first round, the five receivers that had earlier blazed to the sprint win took advantage of Jennings' perfectly-timed tosses.

The Air Force QB timed the throws allowed his receivers to run under each bomb, completing a perfect 10 in a row. None were more spectacular than Lester adjusting to a wind-rattled pass, twisting his body around and sliding under the pigskin just before it hit the ground.

For Allen, the victory was sweet, but the camaraderie better.

"It was great to have a chance to challenge the sister services in this friendly competition, especially knowing that at any-time we might be fighting right alongside them under different circumstances," he said.



Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

Ryan McGovern attempts a field goal during the National Football League Military Challenge. All services competed in punt, pass, snapping and kicking competitions.